



## STUDENT MEETING ON OCTOBER 7

ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON, October 7, Student Members of the Academy will meet in Room 214, Simson African Hall, at 2:00 o'clock. Dr. George Haley, Emeritus Professor of Biology in the University of San Francisco, will speak on the subject, "Journeys of a Naturalist in the Far North."

Everyone interested is invited to attend.

DR. F. M. MACFARLAND  
775 SANTA YNEZ STREET  
STANFORD UNIVERSITY  
CALIFORNIA

SECTION 562 P.L.&R.

[4]



# ACADEMY NEWS LETTER

Number 58

October, 1944



BLACK-TAILED DEER GROUP IN NORTH AMERICAN HALL

*Published Monthly by*  
**CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES**  
GOLDEN GATE PARK • SAN FRANCISCO

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES  
GOLDEN GATE PARK · SAN FRANCISCO

◊ ◊ ◊

## October Announcement

THE REGULAR OCTOBER MEETING of the California Academy of Sciences will be held in the Auditorium of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, 245 Market Street, on Wednesday evening, October 4, at eight o'clock. Following a brief business meeting, the first of the autumn series of lectures on the Walter B. Scaife Foundation will be given by Mr. Albert Wilson, whose subject will be

### YIELDERS OF BEAUTY IN THE GARDEN

GARDENING is a matter in which Californians have a particular interest, and in which they are particularly favored. Both people and plants from the arctic circle to the equator have migrated to the Pacific slope and have found happy homes. California gardens blaze with color, especially from the warm zones of the world.

Mr. Wilson, a graduate of Stanford University and holder of a master's degree in botany, is an experienced landscape gardener and garden consultant. He is the author of "Distinctive Trees and Shrubs in the Gardens of the San Francisco Peninsula," published by the Stanford University Press in 1938. He has taught classes in gardening in the adult education programs of San Francisco, Palo Alto, Redwood City and Santa Cruz, and has lectured widely in the United States and Canada.

In this lecture, which will be beautifully illustrated with lantern slides in color, Mr. Wilson will discuss the factors which lead to success with plants. The public is cordially invited.

◊

### APPLICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

NOTICE is hereby given to all Corporate Members that the Council at its meeting on September 21, 1944, approved the applications of Mr. Richard W. Coleman for MEMBERSHIP, and of Mr. Henry Brusco, Jr., Mr. Edward Ferre and Mr. Kenneth McKay for STUDENT MEMBERSHIP in the California

[ 2 ]

Academy of Sciences. If no objection to the election of these applicants be received at the office of the Academy within two weeks after September 29, they will be considered elected.

◊

### THE BLACK-TAILED DEER

THE BLACK-TAILED DEER (*Odocoileus columbianus*) is an inhabitant of the coastal region from San Luis Obispo County north. The group depicted on page 1 represents a summer scene in Mendocino County, California, where the animals shown were taken on the ranch of the late George A. Knight, near Laytonville.

At this season deer assume what is known as the "red coat," which is gradually shed, changing to "blue." The hair then becomes grayer in color as it lengthens for the winter months. In the spring the long winter hairs are again shed and replaced by the short red coat of summer.

The antlers are shed annually, usually in December and January, dropping off the skull at the base of the horn or "burr." A new antler sprouts out from the skull in early spring and during the process of development is covered with skin and hair, as shown on the males of the group. This hairy covering is known as the "velvet." When the antlers have reached their maximum growth they gradually harden, and the animal rubs them against trees and bushes, wearing away the velvet covering and leaving them hard and polished. The common belief that a deer develops a new point on the antlers each year and that the number of points indicates the age of the animal is erroneous.

The bucks and does are not usually found together at this season, but for exhibition purposes the young and both sexes are shown in this group.

The group was prepared under the direction of John Rowley. The background was painted by Charles Abel Corwin and loaned to the Academy by the California Division of Fish and Game.

◊

### GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION OF A DIRECTOR

THE DIRECTOR of the Academy's Museum recently received from the publishers of a national magazine an advance copy of an article entitled "Volcano Paricutin is Sample of Earth's Interior Hell." The letter of transmittal read in part as follows: "Our editors would be interested in the reaction to this article of anyone as close to the subject as you are."

[ 3 ]